

Jordan Times

The Independent Arab and Jewish Daily Newspaper in Jordan

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The struggle goes on

THE PALESTINE Liberation Organisation's decision to withdraw its fighters from Beirut must be respected—more so by the Arabs than the rest of the world. For all we know, the courage and sense of responsibility involved in taking such a decision could only be matched by the strong determination and heroic fight with which the Palestinian fighters and their Lebanese allies have confronted the Israeli invasion since June 6.

If Israel has achieved one more military victory in Lebanon, it was not over the Palestinians. If anybody has achieved political success, it cannot be but the Palestinians. If the Arabs ever wake up again, it will be because of the Palestinians. The whole world now knows what it is to be a Palestinian. Not Israel, not the United States nor anybody else can any more ignore the legitimate rights and needs of the Palestinian people.

That Israel launched its barbaric attacks (on the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples only) to get the Palestinian fighters out of Lebanon and away from its northern settlements is a big lie and sheer deception. The Begin government wanted the whole cause crushed. And that is why it launched its June 6 invasion.

This is why the Palestinian decision to leave Beirut must be respected, because damage to the cause might have resulted out of the city's complete destruction.

It is always difficult to predict the future. But the struggle for Palestinian self-determination and a homeland in Palestine goes on.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Departure no cause for optimism

Western sources are now saying that the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon will open the way for the solution of the Palestinian issue and that U.S. President Ronald Reagan will pay special attention to this issue. This means, according to these sources, that it was the Palestinian presence in Lebanon which obstructed the U.S. action to solve the Palestinian issue and that the Arabs can now be optimistic after the Palestinian departure from Lebanon.

Needless to say, this argument is false, because President Reagan's interest in the Palestinian issue is not a guarantee for reaching a just solution of the issue, since there is no sign so far suggesting that the American position towards the Palestinian problem is even-handed. Furthermore, "optimism" about what could follow the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon is unrealistic and is an attempt to drug the Arab mind and divert Arab attention from the fact that only "Arab reality" can open the way for the desired solution of the Palestinian issue. Therefore, the building of a genuine Arab solidarity with a pan-Arab commitment to defend Arab rights everywhere should be the springboard for the proper solution of the Palestinian issue, and is the real source of "optimism" if such a solution is to be reached.

Evidently, the forthcoming Arab summit is responsible for building this solidarity, and consequently, for opening the way for the just solution of the Palestinian question. We hope that the summit will do just that.

Al Dustour: The responsibility that all must shoulder

According to the agreement reached among all sides, the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut will begin early next week without any sign that this step should be coupled with an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon or a comprehensive solution of the Palestinian issue. This means that the mission of U.S. envoy Philip Habib was restricted to evacuating the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon. This has been an Israeli demand and a major objective. Habib's efforts were not devoted to effecting the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and ending their occupation of Lebanese territory or the subsequent steps which Washington or Tel Aviv should take to reach a comprehensive and just settlement of the Palestinian people's problem. With the exception of Egypt, which has announced the "freezing of the 'autonomy' talks with Israel and the United States until after the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the Arab countries have been content with American promises to make special efforts to settle the Middle East crisis comprehensively. The Arab countries have not tried to benefit from the winning card they have, that is to link the departure of the Palestinian resistance to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and to follow up on efforts to tackle the Palestinian issue on the basis of a comprehensive settlement.

Lebanon's destiny is now in the hands of the invading Israeli forces, and the comprehensive settlement of the area's crisis now depends on the will of Washington which is still committed to supporting and assisting Israel and defending its aggressive actions.

The situation becomes more dangerous in view of the acts of reprisals which Israel is carrying out against the Palestinian civilians. Meanwhile, Israel is tightening its grip on Lebanon by prolonging its occupation and supporting one Lebanese faction against the other with the aim of introducing basic changes in the Lebanese political structure in the manner that could serve its interests and expansionist ambitions. Therefore, it is necessary in this case that the power of the multinational force should include not only the supervision of the implementation of the departure of the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon, but also the protection of the Palestinian and Lebanese civilians from reprisals of Israeli forces. The multinational force should also confront the armed militias which are supported by Israel and prevent them from assaulting Lebanese civilians or undermining Lebanon's unity, sovereignty and Arabism.

However, since the mandate of the multinational force in Lebanon is limited, the Arabs should embark on a quick and effective action to secure Israel's withdrawal and to prevent it from reaping the fruits of its aggression as well as to prompt the international community to find a just and durable solution to the Middle East crisis.

Curbing human rights violations and pressing on with land reform in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR — President Alvaro Magana calls them "unfortunate incidents." Defence Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia speaks of "problems resulting from the abuse of authority." The United States embassy in San Salvador refers to "command and control difficulties" in the armed forces.

In plain language, they all mean the same thing: murder, torture and the disappearance of civilians in troubled El Salvador.

Late in July, President Reagan told the United States Congress the government here was worthy of continued U.S. aid because it was making progress on curbing human rights violations and pressing on with an American-promoted land reform programme.

Foreign diplomats and residents here agree that there has been progress, if only in terms of bad things happening less frequently, but President Reagan's certification has raised basic questions on the level of human rights abuses a democratic donor country should tolerate before cutting off assistance.

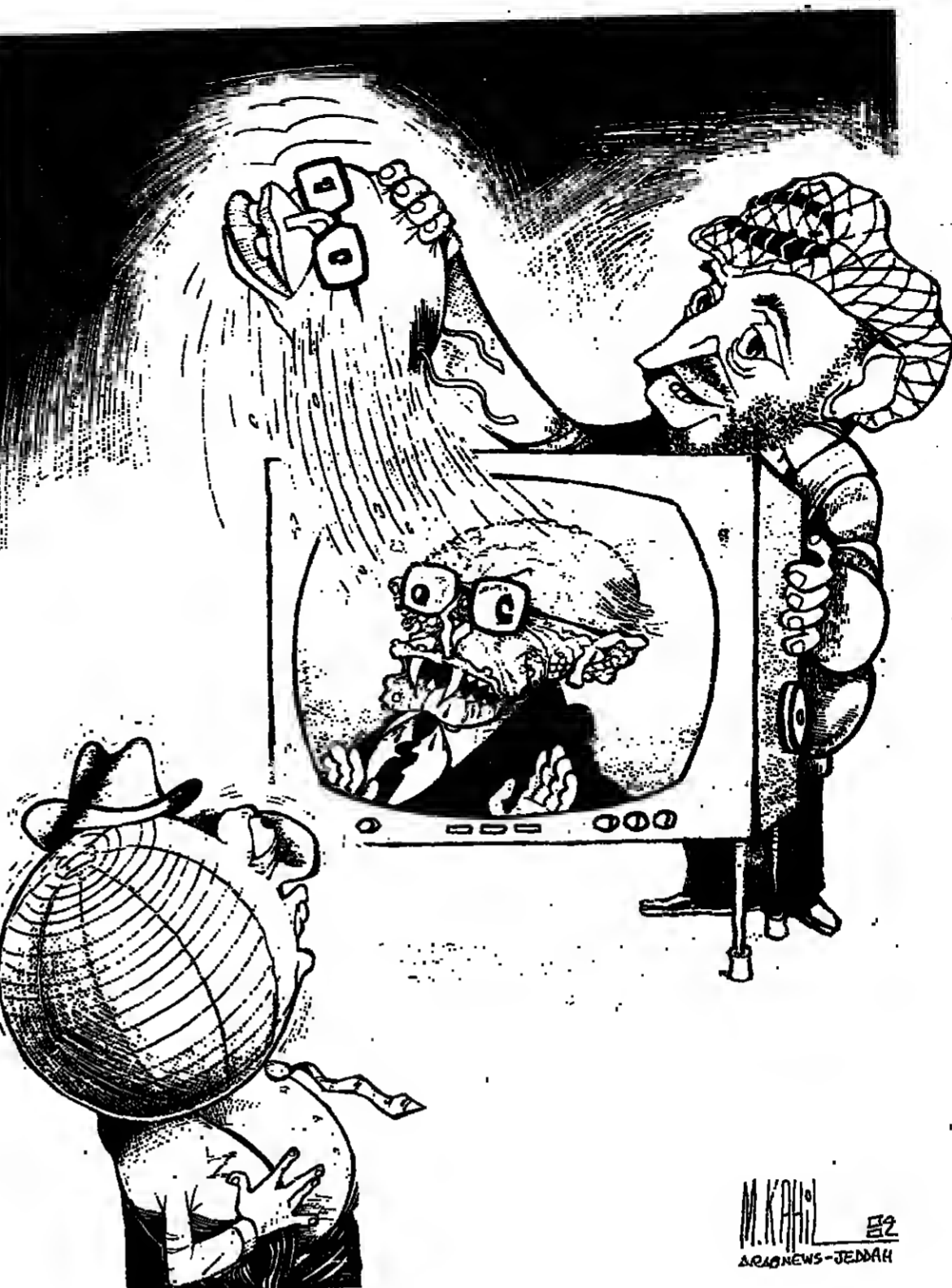
Difficulty of progress

"Just having fewer people killed is not enough, in my book," a Conservative Republican Congressman, Mickey Edwards, said during a visit here last June. His remark spotlighted the difficulty of gauging "progress" on human rights and reforms in a country torn by a fratricidal war.

Judged by numbers, progress has been significant. According to the Christian Legal Aid organisation here, 12,501 civilians died last year — an average of 1,040 a month. Legal Aid, considered left-wing in the Salvadorean political context, blamed most of the killings on members of the security forces.

In the first half of this year, the organisation listed 3,059 civilians killed. The monthly average ran at 509, roughly half last year's toll.

"That's not bad, said a European diplomat. "But how do you explain that kind of progress to someone whose family has just been murdered by what is known here as 'heavily-armed unknowns'."



World War II reparations crucial in Albania-W. German relations

By Colin McIntyre
Reuter

VIENNA — Secret talks between West Germany and Albania on restoring relations frozen since World War II have reached a stalemate over Tirana's demands for substantial war reparations, according to diplomats on both sides.

West German sources said contacts between the two sides, which began in Belgrade and later switched to Vienna, took place every three or four months between ambassadors at alternate embassies.

They picked up speed following a statement by Albanian President Enver Hoxha last November that he saw no insurmountable difficulties to re-establishing relations between his hermit-like country and Bonn.

Addressing the Albanian Communist party congress in Tirana, the 73-year-old leader said he believed the two sides could agree on reparations for damage and deaths caused by German forces occupying Albania after the Italians surrendered in 1943.

But according to Albanian and West German sources, the talks failed to bridge the gap between the two sides. The last session took place in March, and there were no plans for another in the near future, they said.

The Albanians are demanding \$2 billion in reparations for material damage and the death of about 28,000 Albanians during fighting between the Nazis and Communist-led partisans.

West Germany is keen to normalise its links with Albania, the only country in Europe with which it has no diplomatic relations.

But the West German position is that the destruction caused by German troops during their short stay in Albania — they left on 1944 — was relatively slight, and therefore Bonn sees no reason to indemnify Tirana.

West German sources also said that even if Bonn wanted to pay reparations, it was legally prevented from doing so by the 1953 London Treaty on West Germany's war debt which postponed the question of reparations to East Germany pending a final peace settlement.

No peace treaty has been signed because Germany is now divided into two separate states, and West Germany officially aspires to their peaceful reunification.

Bending the agreement

West Germany has managed to bend the 1953 agreement in the case of Poland and Yugoslavia, which suffered heavily under the Nazis. They were given substantial credits for up to 50 years with interest rates as low as 0.75 per cent, amount virtually to grants.

But in Albania's case the problem is that under its new constitution which followed Tirana's split with China in 1978, the country is forbidden from accepting credits or grants from anyone.

Deprived of the considerable financial support that Peking poured into Albania during the 17-year friendship between them, Tirana has decided to go it alone without any outside aid, though it has started to come out of its shell as it expands trade with other countries.

Albanian sources said that while Tirana was prepared to juggle with the wording of any agreement normalising relations, the document must include a clear reference to reparations payments.

"If both sides are willing to solve the problem, it will be solved," an Albanian diplomat said. "It is a technical problem — one for the experts."

Albanian sources also indicated that the size of Tirana's claim could be negotiable.

"We are not against compromises, as long as they do not violate our principles, including our right to reparations," an Albanian diplomat said.

West Germany on the other hand is insisting on restoring relations without conditions. "Once we have embassies, we can start talking about how we can be useful in various fields, including the economy," a West German diplomat said.

This is similar to the position taken by Britain, the other major European country still to settle its relations with Albania.

Negotiations to resume links frozen during the war were broken off in 1946 because of an incident in the Corfu Channel in which two British destroyers ran into mines, with the loss of 44 men.

The world court ordered Albania to pay compensation but Tirana refused to discuss it until London returned gold worth more than \$30 million which fell into Nazi and then British hands during the war.

Tirana turned down a British proposal in 1980 to establish relations without preconditions, and there have been no initiatives since, diplomats said.

America's prestigious cultural institutions dragged into politics

By T.R. Stauffer

TWO OF AMERICA'S most prestigious cultural institutions, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, have been dragged into the propaganda war over Palestine. Both the orchestra and the museum have been forced to align themselves with the pro-Israeli position by threats of sanctions against them by important Jewish donor groups. They have thus become exposed to challenges to their tax-exempt status and perhaps to some form of retaliation through the Arab Boycott Office.

The sad affair of the orchestra began in April after it engaged Vanessa Redgrave to be Narrator in Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex*. This triggered vehement protests from important Jewish donors to the orchestra and from some of the orchestra's members. They did not question Miss Redgrave's artistic ability; they objected to her because of her support for the PLO. Faced with the prospect of lost donations and arguing its concern for public safety, the orchestra cancelled the concerts and Miss Redgrave's contract.

Miss Redgrave filed a suit against the orchestra for breach of contract and the National Association of Arab-Americans, which happened to be holding its annual conference in Boston at the time,

indicated its intention of filing its own suit to challenge the orchestra's tax-exempt status. But there was no outcry from liberal circles or civil rights groups against a violation of the principles of artistic freedom.

The affair involving the Metropolitan Museum of Art was more convoluted. It broke in February when its trustees cancelled a seemingly innocuous exhibition of archaeological artifacts from Israel. The museum was immediately accused of succumbing to anti-semitic pressures and the New York press identified many prominent Jewish citizens who allegedly were threatening to discontinue their support for the museum. Mayor Koch joined in the attacks and pointed out the cash grants and the tax advantages the museum got from the city. The trustees quickly reversed their decision and announced the exhibition would be held.

However, it was later revealed that the real bone of contention was not the holding of an Israeli exhibition but how the exhibits were to be labelled. Were they to be designated as Israeli or Palestinian? It was the Israeli officials who had caused the trouble by insisting that all objects be designated Israel whether they came from the West Bank, East Jerusalem or from within the pre-1967 Israeli frontiers. The museum's officers had been carefully briefed that Israel's annex-

ation of East Jerusalem had not been recognised by the U.S. or any other state and that they would run foul of U.S. and U.N. policy if they agreed to the Israeli demands.

Thus the reality of the case was the opposite of the initial press reports. In rejecting the exhibition the museum was resisting political pressure, not succumbing to it. Had the museum accepted the Israeli terms it would have been seen as endorsing Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem and its claim to the West Bank. The museum has said the exhibition will be held, but it refused to comment on how the exhibits will be labelled. Jewish spokesmen, however, claim complete victory.

The question which is taxing some commercial companies which make donations to the orchestra and the museum, especially those with interests in the Arab World, is whether the Arab Boycott Office will take any action against them. They know that TWA, for example, is exposed to the danger of being added to the boycott list because in recent advertisements it described the Dome of the Rock as being in Israel. And other firms, especially in the entertainment field, have been put on the Arab blacklist for involvement in Israeli fundraising drives and publicity programmes.

— From Middle East International

هكذا على العالم

FEATURES

Debts force Tagawa residents to chop off a finger to acquire insurance benefits

By Ikuro Anai
Reporter

TAGAWA, Japan—Residents of this destitute mining town who have found themselves landed with snowballing debts have tried a drastic solution—chop off a finger.

The "victims", who include housewives, gamblers and the unemployed, then claim funds from insurance companies after describing fictional accidents. The money is passed on to the moneylenders, who charge exorbitant interest rates.

In some cases the loan sharks are thought to have helped in the grisly acts, supplying hammers, chisels and axes.

Detectives in this bleak district, surrounded by worked-out mines, have been investigating 80 cases of such fraud.

Tatsuo Nishiyama, deputy chief of the Tagawa police force, said: "We started investigations in June and so far we have arrested 22 people, 15 of whom deliberately had either the index finger or thumb of their left hand severed to get insurance money to pay back debts."

"A lost finger has brought people as much as three million yen (\$11,500)," he said.

Police are also investigating people alleged to have received money in similar circumstances from the Post Office Insurance Scheme since 1979.

Debt is a prominent feature of life in Tagawa County in the north of Kyushu island.

Government policy

Thirty years ago there were 300 active coal mines in the area, employing about 36,000 people, but the Japanese government's policy

of turning to oil as the country's main source of energy led to mine closures, with the last Tagawa pit closing in 1972.

When the mining industry was strong Tagawa county, which now has a population of about 100,000, had less than 300 people receiving government social security, the lowest rate in Japan. Now 196 in every thousand are living on the state.

The worst hit is Kawasaki town, where 262 of every thousand are on welfare, the highest figure in a country where the national average is 12 in every thousand.

Tagawa welfare office, said half the people involved in the finger fraud are thought to be recipients of social security.

"We've been trying to guide them away from loan sharks but there is no law to prevent moneylenders annoying the poor, most of whom borrowed money before starting to receive state subsidies," he added.

Each day at the town halls across the county welfare officials hand out cash.

Two queues in one place

Two queues appear, one of

those receiving welfare payments, and the other of the loan sharks' strongmen waiting for on-the-spot repayments. These are almost always just enough to cover interest payments falling due.

Policeman Nishiyama said one of the people arrested is a moneylender, but added that the police can't say at this stage if moneylenders actually encouraged or forced their debtors to amputate fingers.

"Among those arrested are six 'choppers', including one who cut off the fingers of four people. They used hammers to hit chisels

or axes placed on fingers," he said. "It is not easy to establish that people deliberately chopped off fingers to receive money by fraud. We have to find witnesses, which is difficult."

Honest people

Welfare administrator Mr. Ayazuka said: "Almost all the people under the life protection (social security) scheme are honest, and we are trying to rehabilitate them as quickly as possible."

But the county authorities face an uphill battle in the

economically-depressed region. An official at the Kawasaki town hall said: "We have been doing our best to rid the town of its infamous image, but no big companies want to build plants here."

Only 16 jobs were available for each 100 job seekers in the county during the last three months. The situation will worsen if, as expected, the Japan national railways closes the under-used rail links in the area.

Glancing from his office window policeman Nishiyama described the state of the area. "Tagawa is just inert," he said.

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SPORTS

Tottenham meet perennial champions Liverpool

English soccer season begins with Charity Shield at Wembley

LONDON (R) — As if facing perennial champions Liverpool were not enough, Tottenham Hotspur are beset by injury problems for the Football Association Charity Shield which opens the English season here Saturday.

Tottenham, English Cup winners for the past two years, have more than half their team ruled out or doubtful for the clash at Wembley with League Champions Liverpool who are expected to be at full strength.

Spurs captain Steve Perryman and fellow defenders Paul Price and Graham Roberts are definitely out, while World Cup players

Glenn Hoddle of England and Steve Archibald of Scotland were among five others who missed training Thursday.

Tottenham can draw no help from Argentina either with Osvaldo Ardiles spending a season with French club Paris St. Germain and Ricardo Villa far from match-fit.

Spurs fans were relieved to learn Thursday night that Villa was staying with Tottenham after all and not returning to Argentina to join River Plate. But manager Keith Burkinshaw said: "He is overweight at the moment and it will be a few weeks before he's

match-fit.

Tottenham's injury blight gives new signing Gary Mabbutt his debut chance two days before his 21st birthday. But Liverpool's new recruit, £400,000 (£680,000) striker David Hodgson, will almost certainly have to settle for a place on the substitutes bench.

Minor injury doubts over Scottish World Cup players Kenny Dalglish and Alan Hansen were cleared up during a light training session Friday morning and both were expected to be fit for Liverpool on Saturday.

Tottenham shared the Charity Shield with Aston Villa last year after a 2-2 draw but the odds are against their holding the Merseysiders.

Liverpool are unbeaten in five Charity Shield finals since the match was moved to Wembley in 1974 and they go into Saturday's clash knowing they beat Spurs there earlier this year in the League Cup final.

Liverpool, one down to an early Spurs goal in that match, bounced back with a late equaliser from Irishman Ronnie Whelan and ground their opponents down with two more goals in extra time. Spurs, struggling to field a team, will do well to escape another beating Saturday.

English rebel cricketers must serve remainder of ban

LONDON (R) — England's 15 cricketing rebels must serve the remainder of the three-year test ban imposed on them for taking part in an unofficial tour of South Africa earlier this year.

As expected, the English Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) decided at a special meeting at Lord's Friday that the suspension, imposed in March, would not be lifted.

The board said that cricket in England would suffer "irreparable harm" unless the international programme for the next three years went through as scheduled.

The board, who face a possible restraint of trade legal action from the 15 players, know that next season's World Cup and the West Indies tour to England in 1984 would be in serious jeopardy if the ban were lifted or cut short.

Representatives of the TCCB, the banned players and their legal advisers had met last month to hear the rebels' views on their lengthy ban from test cricket.

In their statement Friday the board said that nothing had transpired which justified any change now in the resolution taken to ban the 15 players.

Newcastle United snap up Keegan for £100,000

NEWCASTLE, England (R) — Newcastle United, one of England's most famous names but a struggling second division club for the past four years, finally got their man when they snapped up Kevin Keegan for £100,000 (£174,000) Thursday.

The England captain's signature was no-cut price bargain, however, and reports that he can expect around £3,000 (£5,220) in his weekly wage packet have not been met with unqualified delight in the job-starved area.

City councillor Norman Bell, a lifelong United fan, said: "I feel it will simply heighten the despair of thousands of unemployed Newcastle supporters to learn that something like £400,000 (£696,000) in transfer money and wages brought Kevin here."

Keegan, 31, who arrived at

Newcastle via Scunthorpe, Liverpool, Hamburg in West Germany and Southampton, stressed his unexpected drop into the second division had nothing to do with money and added: "It's a new challenge. My job is to make Newcastle United great again."

Keegan, who played for only 27 minutes in the World Cup finals in Spain last month because of injury, will be expected to spark off a return to the glory days of the past at Newcastle.

They have been first division champions four times, although their last success was in 1927, and F.A. Cup winners on six occasions between 1910 and 1955. Their last major triumph was in the old European Fairs' Cup in 1969.

Many great names have filled the famous black and white striped shirts including Jackie Milburn and the legendary Hughie Gallacher.

In his column in the Sun newspaper Friday former England striker Jimmy Greaves said Keegan will earn in one week what Milburn, Newcastle's all-time top scorer, took three years to earn.

Ovett suffers second setback of season

BRIGHTON, England (R) — World 1,500 metres record holder Steve Ovett suffered his second setback of the season when he pulled a thigh muscle in training here Thursday night.

He immediately withdrew from Saturday's one mile at London's Crystal Palace and next Wednesday's invitation meeting in Coblenz, West Germany.

Unless the injury turns out to be minor, Ovett's chances of adding the European Championship and Commonwealth Games 1,500 metres titles to the gold medal he won in the Olympic 800 metres look slim.

The European Championships in Athens are only three weeks away while the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane start on September 30.

Earlier this year Ovett had to undergo surgery on the same leg after he ran into railings during a training run.

Ovett will visit a physiotherapist later Friday but will not make any decision on his racing plans until next week.

McEnroe, Connors, Gerulaitis advance to quarter-finals of ATP tourney

MASON, Ohio (R) — John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors and Vitas Gerulaitis, the first, second and fourth seeds, Thursday advanced to the quarter-finals of the \$300,000 Association of Tennis Professionals Championship here.

McEnroe, the defending champion, beat 10th seed Raul Ramirez of Mexico 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Connors won five straight games in the second set to defeat ninth-seeded Brian Teacher 6-1, 7-5, while Gerulaitis, winner of the Canadian Open last week, struggled to a 7-5, 4-6, 7-5 win over fellow-American Hank Pfister.

Guy Forget of France, 17, the

world's number one junior player who was forced to win three qualifying matches here, beat American Mike Depalmer 6-3, 6-1.

Forget, who will play in the U.S. Open junior championship in two weeks, meets McEnroe in the next round.

In other third-round matches, fifth-seeded Gene Mayer of the United States beat compatriot Tim Gulikson 6-3, 6-1.

Steve Denton beat fellow American Matt Mitchell 7-6, 6-2 and Brian Gottfried of the United States beat Henri Leconte of France, 6-3, 7-5.

Hinault to compete in world cycling despite fine, suspension

ARIS (R) — French star Bernard Hinault will compete in the World Cycling Championships in Britain next week after all, it was announced Friday.

Hinault, four-times winner of the Tour de France, and four other leading French cyclists—Bernard Vallet, Jean Rene Bernadeau, Regis Clere, and Pierre, Le Bigault—had threatened to pull out of the World Championships at Goodwood after being fined for refusing to take a dope test last month.

But Friday a spokesman for the

French Cycling Federation promised that the cases would be reviewed, and said the federation hoped to field the strongest possible representation in the championships.

A spokesman for the Union of Professional Cyclists (UNCP) said that in the light of the federation's decision the riders would compete.

The five were fined 3,300 francs (\$485) and given a month's suspended ban after failing to take routine dope tests after an event at Callac, Brittany, on July 27.

Rowdy Gaines captures his 2nd national swimming title

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Rowdy Gaines Thursday night captured his second national title of the 1982 United States Long Course Swimming Championships with a 1:49.64 in the men's 200 metre freestyle.

Tracy Caulkins also became a double winner Thursday with a 4:44.26 first-place time in the women's 400 metre individual medley. The previous night she won the 200 metre backstroke and

now has 41 national titles to her credit.

Gaines' victory followed his win in the 100 metre freestyle on Wednesday, the opening night of the four-day competition at Indiana University.

Sara Linke won her first National Championship Thursday with a 2:01.25 in the women's 200 metre freestyle. Ricardo Prado claimed the men's 400 metre individual medley title with a time of 4:22.54.

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